Archives Can't Hide Facts on JFK, Suit Says

CHICAGO — (AP) — A suit charging the National Archives in Washington with suppressing documents concerning an alleged plot to assassinate the late President John F. Kennedy in Chicago was filed Monday in U.S. District Court.

KENNEDY

The suit, filed by legal researcher Sherman Skolnick, contends the archives are withholding information that shows Kennedy died not at the hands of a lone assassin but as the result of a conspiracy.

Radio station WCFL, a Metromedia affiliate owned by the Chicago Federation of Labor and Industrial Union Council, which aired the story before the suit was filed and worked with Skolnick in its preparation, said the suit "is believed to be the first in the nation challenging the authority of the archives to withhold information about the Kennedy death for 75 years."

THE WARREN Commission, a panel appointed by then President Lyndon B. Johnson to investigate the assassination, said that Kennedy was killed by a single man, Lee Harvey Oswald, and that it could find no evidence of any conspiracy.

The suit asserts that five conspirators planned to kill Kennedy at the Army-Air Force football game in Chicago Nov. 2, 1963. But when the President canceled his appearance because of a cold at the last minute, the suit continued, the assassination attempt was rescheduled for Dallas three weeks later.

The suit states that "less than an hour before the president's scheduled arrival," a Chicago lithographer was arrested for a minor traffic violation. It said the man, one of the conspirators, also was charged with carrying a concealed weapon after police noticed a hunting knife on the front seat of the car.

Skolnick contends the lithographer, Thomas Arthur Vallee, "was a double for Lee Harvey Oswald."

ATTACHED to the suit were 11 documents, including three FBI reports pertaining to the assassination that were recently declassified by the National Archives.

One of the reports notes that Vallee, in a Jan. 14, 1964, appearance in circuit court, "revealed he was very much against the present administration." The report also states that Judge Gordon B. Nash denied a defense motion to suppress the evidence on the concealed weapon charge and released Vallee on $100 bond.

The other report states that William [illegible], a Chicago television news director at the time, assigned a newsman to trace the license plates on Vallee's car, 3110RF-NY, but the newsman reported that the FBI had placed a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

The third declassified [illegible] states [illegible] Nash withdrew the [illegible] guilty on the concealed weapon charge at [illegible] subsequent court [illegible] and continued [illegible].

Skolnick [illegible] documents were sent to him by an undisclosed person, declared recent efforts to trace Vallee's whereabouts were unsuccessful.

The suit demands that the Warren Report be declared void.